

Message

From: Dunn, Alexandra [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=426D0177EAAB4001A5C85F051565997E-DUNN, ALEXA]
Sent: 6/21/2018 5:22:20 PM
To: Konkus, John [konkus.john@epa.gov]
CC: Deegan, Dave [Deegan.Dave@epa.gov]; Block, Molly [block.molly@epa.gov]; Gutro, Doug [Gutro.Doug@epa.gov]; Bender, Emily [Bender.Emily@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Portland (ME) Press Herald interested in OPED, but wants changes

Go for it.

Sent from my iPhone

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, J.D.
Regional Administrator
Region 1 New England
(617) 918-1012

This email is for official EPA business only and may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of information Act

On Jun 21, 2018, at 12:59 PM, Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov> wrote:

My opinion is to add the words and get it published as an oped.

On Jun 21, 2018, at 12:49 PM, Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

Please see below feedback from Portland Press Herald. This is a really fast turnaround so Molly and John please inform how you wish to proceed, if you'd like to draft a longer item for OPED or shorten this for a Letter.

Also please let us know if we should take lead on whatever direction of edits, or if HQ will.

Thanks!
Dave

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Dave Deegan  
U.S. EPA, New England Regional Office  
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email: [deegan.dave@epa.gov](mailto:deegan.dave@epa.gov)  
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**From:** Sarah E. Collins [<mailto:scollins@pressherald.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 12:40 PM  
**To:** Deegan, Dave <[Deegan.Dave@epa.gov](mailto:Deegan.Dave@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: EPA info on PFAS meetings 6/25-26 in Exeter NH



Dave,

It was good to talk to you, too!

We'd like to publish your submission, but at 453 words, it's too long for a letter and too short for an op-ed.

Op-eds are a minimum of 650 to a maximum of 750 words, not including the writer's name and identifying information. The limit for letters to the editor is 300 words.

You can either add to or abridge this submission and resubmit it – it's up to you. Letters can be submitted to us at [letterstotheeditor@pressherald.com](mailto:letterstotheeditor@pressherald.com); op-eds can be sent to [mainevoices@pressherald.com](mailto:mainevoices@pressherald.com).

I will note that the submission doesn't exactly grab the reader's attention. Example No. 1: "... potential environmental and health risks." What would those be? Example No. 2: "... have been detected in groundwater in some New England communities." Again, pretty dry. People won't be able to relate without more-specific information.

Also: Go easy on the acronyms. I understand that it's an occupational hazard when writing about government programs and regulations, but it's a turn-off for readers.

Finally: Where's the opinion, other than "we welcome community engagement"? Or, as the smart folks at the Op-Ed Project put it, "Why should everyone else -- including those of us who are not experts in your area -- care?" (Here's the full list of their [Questions to Ask Yourself When Writing](#).)

Sarah

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Sarah Collins  
assistant editorial page editor  
Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram  
207-791-6322

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**From:** "Deegan, Dave" <[Deegan.Dave@epa.gov](mailto:Deegan.Dave@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 12:10 PM  
**To:** "Sarah E. Collins" <[scollins@pressherald.com](mailto:scollins@pressherald.com)>, John Richardson <[jrichardson@pressherald.com](mailto:jrichardson@pressherald.com)>  
**Cc:** "Deegan, Dave" <[Deegan.Dave@epa.gov](mailto:Deegan.Dave@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** EPA info on PFAS meetings 6/25-26 in Exeter NH

Hello Sarah and John,

Thanks Sarah for taking the time to speak with me a few minutes ago. I wanted to be sure you are aware of EPA's public meetings next Monday/Tuesday in Exeter regarding PFAS chemicals. I've also pasted below both logistical info on the meetings and an OPED submission, in case you are able to run it.

We are very eager to ensure that your readers are aware of next week's meetings. Feel free to give me a call to follow up, or tomorrow I will be out so please call Emily Bender (contact info below).  
Best Regards,



Dave

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Dave Deegan

U.S. EPA, New England Regional Office

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From: US EPA New England Region [<mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 2:26 PM

To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>

Subject: OPED: EPA Seeks Public Input for National Plan to Manage PFAS at NH Community Engagement Event



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

WWW.EPA.GOV/NEWSROOM

EPA New England OPED Submission

June 19, 2018

By: Alexandra Dunn, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, New England Region

EPA Seeks Public Input for National Plan to Manage PFAS at First Community Engagement Event

New Englanders know that our part of the country is special. New England boasts vibrant communities, many histories dating to before the American Revolution. Our environment is also unique and wonderful. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is holding its first-ever Community Engagement event on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Exeter, N.H.

PFAS is a group of man-made chemicals that have been widely used in everyday products around the globe since the 1940s. But PFAS compounds also can enter the environment, raising concerns about the potential environmental and health risks. PFAS have been detected in groundwater in some New England communities.

At the PFAS National Leadership Summit held in Washington D.C. last month, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

announced four concrete actions the Agency will take to tackle this issue:

1. EPA will initiate steps to evaluate the need for a “maximum contaminant level” (MCL) for PFOA and PFOS, which are the two most common PFAS chemicals. We will convene our federal partners and examine everything we know about PFOA and PFOS in drinking water.
2. EPA is beginning the necessary steps to propose designating PFOA and PFOS as “hazardous substances” through one of the available statutory mechanisms, including potentially CERCLA Section 102.
3. EPA is currently developing groundwater cleanup recommendations for PFOA and PFOS at contaminated sites and will complete this task by fall of this year.
4. EPA is taking action in close collaboration with our federal and state partners to develop toxicity values for GenX and PFBS (two PFAS-related chemicals) by this summer.

Now EPA is looking for more input while crafting a national management plan. This plan will provide information and solutions for addressing PFAS in our communities. Communities are a key voice in this process and this meeting in Exeter on June 25 and 26 will have a real impact because we will be listening to you—the public—and using your input to help inform our path forward on this issue. Using input from the National Summit, public docket and community engagements EPA plans to release the management plan by the end of the year.

We are listening to the public’s concerns and bringing key stakeholders together to improve our understanding of these chemicals. EPA drinking water experts, research scientists, and regional officials will attend and speak at the event to ensure the public understands what we know and what we’re doing.

Our continued work with states and communities will ensure that, from the federal to the local level, we can quickly respond to and address the concerns shared by New England citizens on PFAS. We invite everyone to attend the sessions in Exeter on June 25 and 26, and witness in person cooperative federalism in action.

More information on the Exeter meeting, including how to register to attend and/or speak:
<https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-community-engagement-exeter-nh>

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Word Count: 467

Note: A Hi-Res photo of Alexandra Dunn is available for download from EPA’s Website at:
<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-administrator-epas-new-england-region-region-1>

CONTACT:

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